



May

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Klaus Ducker et al.

Examiner: Joseph F. Murphy

Serial No.: 10/030,701

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: January 14, 2002

Title: G-PROTEIN COUPLED RECEPTOR AND DNA SEQUENCES THEREOF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

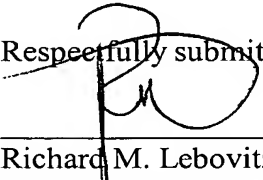
Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 24, 2004, Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group 1, claims 1-9.

All the claims in the application involve related subject matter, e.g., ICSR-1, a G-protein coupled receptor. A search would therefore comprise overlapping subject matter, and it would not be an undue burden on the examiner to carry out a search. "If search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner *must* examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct invention." (Emphasis added.) M.P.E.P. 803. Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due with this response, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-2354

Date: March 24, 2004